

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 USIA-06
EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 OIC-02 EA-10 L-03 ABF-01
OMB-01 TRSE-00 /066 W
-----111772 151712Z /53

P R 151613Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8635
INFO USMISSION USUN
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 26855

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNESCO, PORG, AORG
SUBJECT: UNESCO: GENEVA GROUP MEETING

REF: (A) PARIS 23089, (B) STATE 216799

1. GENEVA GROUP (GG) MET AGAIN ON SEPT. 13 TO PASS JUDGMENT ON DRAFT REPORT OF GG ACTIVITIES OVER PAST TERM, THE FINAL VERSION OF WHICH HAS SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN TELEPHONED (SEPT. 13) TO GENEVA FOR USE AT GG (CL) SEPT. 14 MEETING.

2. FINAL TEXT WAS SLIGHTLY ALTERED FROM THAT CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS TO EXCLUDE SENTENCE WHICH READ "HOWEVER, THE TONE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPLY TO THE LETTER FROM THE GENEVA GROUP CHAIRMAN WAS CONSIDERED BY THE GROUP TO INDICATE AN UNSYMPATHETIC ATTITUDE TO THE MINORITY VIEW EXPRESSED BY THE MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS..." THIS WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBSTITUTED BY SENTENCE WHICH READS "THE DIRECTOR GENERAL HAS REPLIED TO THIS LETTER, AND THE GROUP IS CONSIDERING WHAT FURTHER ACTION IT SHOULD TAKE."

3. CHANGE NOTED ABOVE REFLECTS EXBD CHAIRMAN MARTIN'S (UK) INSISTENCE THAT LETTER BE PURGED OF WHAT HE CONSIDERED AN UNKIND REFERENCE TO DG. RATIONAL IS

THAT THIS LANGUAGE MIGHT HAVE FUTURE UNFORTUNATE CONSEQUENCES IF DG WERE TO LEARN OF IT (WHICH THE DG CERTAINLY WOULD). SWITZERLAND'S AMBASSADOR HUMMEL (CHAIRMAN OF THE EXBD'S FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION) AND SWEDISH REPRESENTATIVE ALSO FOLLOWED LINE THAT EVEN IF INITIAL TEXT FACTUALLY CORRECT, THAT NOTHING WOULD BE GAINED BY INCLUDING REMARK DEROGATORY TO M'BOW, AND MIGHT HARM POSSIBILITY FOR ACHIEVING A DIALOGUE WITH DG CONCERNING THE BUDGET AT SOME FURTHER STAGE.

4. ALTHOUGH SOME OF THE OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT INCLUDING FRGN, JAPAN, CANADAN, FRANCE, AND US REITERATED BELIEF THAT DG HAD IN FACT REJECTED A DIALOGUE BY REPLY (REFTEL A) WHICH MANY MEMBERS IN PROVIOUS MEETING REFERRED TO AS AN ARROGANT AND UNFRIENDLY, "COMPROMISE" LANGUAGE (PARA 2 ABOVE) WAS ADOPTED PRINCIPALLY IN DEFERENCE TO UK DEL, AND MARTIN.

5. COMMENT: WHILE THIS "EXPURGATION" RAN COUNTER TO EMOTIONAL REACTION OF MOST MEMBERS TO DG'S LETTER, A FACTUAL RENDITION OF RESULTS OF GG'S ATTEMPT TO ENGAGE DG IN A "QUIET" DIALOGUE ON BUDGETARY MATTERS, PROBABLY WOULD NOT HAVE SERVED ANY USEFUL PURPOSE. PROBLEM NOW IS THAT THE GG DOES NOT KNOW HOW TO HANDLE DG'S RESPONSE, ALTHOUGH INACTION WILL PROBABLY BE CONFIDENTIAL

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INTERPRETED AS INHERENT WEAKNESS. ISSUE ALSO INDI-

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CATES THAT EXBD CHAIRMAN MARTIN WILL USE HIS
INFLUENCE TO ABORT ACTIONS WHICH HE BELIEVES MIGHT
PLACE HIM ON THE WRONG SIDE OF M'BOW. PRESUMPTION
IS THAT MARTIN HAS HIS EYE ON DDG SLOT WHICH FOBES
WILL VACATE AT YEAR'S END.

6. GG MEMBERS WHO HAD RECEIVED THEIR INSTRUCTIONS ON
BUDGET ITEM (103 EX/5) SHARED POSITIONS WITH MEMBERS.
ONLY NEW INFORMATION CAME FROM FRG REP WHO SAID HIS
GOVT. WILLING TO ACCEPT A BUDGET AMOUNTING TO \$270
MILLION. THIS PROJECTION IS BASED ON ZERO OVERALL
REAL GROWTH IN BUDGET. ABSOLUTE INCREASE OWES TO
INFLATION AND OTHER "REQUIRED" EXPENDITURES.
FRG WOULD SUPPORT A 4 INCREASE IN REAL PROGRAM, TO BE
FINANCED VIA INTERNAL ECONOMIES. SWEDEN
INFORMED GG THAT IT COULD SUPPORT DG'S AS IT STANDS.

7. US DEL SHARED INFO (REFTEL B), WHICH GG MEMBERS
FOUND PERPLEXING SINCE IT ALLOWS FOR 4 REAL PROGRAM
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GROWTH, AND STILL COMES IN BELOW THE FRG AT \$262.2
MILLION, WHILE SEEMING TO FOLLOW THE SAME ASSUMPTIONS.
IN ORDER TO CLARIFY THIS SITUATION, PERM DEL WOULD
APPRECIATE RECEIVING ASAP FULLER EXPOSE OF ASSUMPTIONS
AND ARITHMETIC EMPLOYED IN ARRIVING AT 262.2 MILLION
FIGURE.
HARLAN

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